

December 18, 2002

Ms. Donna Caton, Chief Clerk  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
527 East Capitol Avenue  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9280

Dear Ms. Caton,

Enclosed please find the Joint Petition for Approval of the Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Ameritech Illinois and Z-Tel Communications, Inc.

Please acknowledge receipt by returning the extra copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

<b>ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY )</b>	
<b>(Ameritech Illinois) )</b>	
<b>and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. )</b>	
<b>)</b>	<b>02 - _____</b>
<b>Joint Petition for Approval of Third )</b>	
<b>Amendment to the Interconnection )</b>	
<b>Agreement dated December 3, 2002, )</b>	
<b>pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 )</b>	

**JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE  
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
Z-TEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND AMERITECH ILLINOIS**

Illinois Bell Telephone Company (“Ameritech Illinois”) and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. through counsel, hereby request that the Commission review and approve the attached Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement dated December 3, 2002 pursuant to Sections 252(a)(1) and 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 47 U.S.C. §§ 252 (a)(1), 252(e), (the “Act”). In support of their request, the parties state as follows:

1. The Parties have agreed that the Interconnection Agreement be amended to provide for certain terms and conditions and have entered into this Amendment to set forth such terms and conditions.
2. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(2) the Commission may only reject a negotiated agreement if it finds that (1) the agreement discriminates against another carrier or (2) implementation of the Agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Neither basis for rejection is present here.
3. Copies of the Third Amendment are available for public inspection in Ameritech Illinois and Z-Tel’s public offices.

WHEREFORE, Ameritech Illinois and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. respectfully request that the Commission approve the attached Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement under Section 252(e) of the Act as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of December, 2002

**AMERITECH ILLINOIS**

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Mark Kerber/James Huttenhower  
Ameritech Services, Inc.  
225 West Randolph Street, 25D  
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(312) 727-7140  
Counsel

**Z-Tel Communications, Inc.**

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Don Davis  
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Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 273-6861 (Fax)  
Vice President-Strategic and Industry Policy

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

<b>ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY )</b>	
<b>(Ameritech Illinois) )</b>	
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<b>pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 )</b>	

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL**

I, Eric Larsen, am Director Negotiations for Southwestern Bell Telephone, LP d/b/a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company/Illinois Bell Telephone Company Negotiations and Interconnection, and submit this Statement in Support of the Joint Petition for Approval of the Third Amendment to the Negotiated Interconnection Agreement between Z-Tel Communications, Inc. and Ameritech Illinois.

The attached Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") between Illinois Bell Telephone Company ("Ameritech Illinois") and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. (Z-Tel) was reached through voluntary negotiations between the parties. Accordingly, Ameritech Illinois and Z-Tel request approval pursuant to Sections 252(a)(1), 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (sometimes referred to as the "Act").

The Amendment meets all the requirements of the Act and the Commission should approve it.

The Agreement is amended as follows:

- ◆ Replaces Appendix Performance Measurements to their Interconnection Agreement.
- ◆ This amendment shall not modify or extend the Effective Date or Term of the underlying Agreement, but rather, shall be coterminous with the underlying Agreement.
- ◆ Except as modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the underlying agreement shall remain.

**STATE OF FLORIDA** )

)

**CITY OF TAMPA** )

**VERIFICATION**

Don Davis, being first duly sworn, states on oath that he is Vice President-Strategic and Industry Policy for Z-Tel Communications, Inc. and that the facts stated in the foregoing Joint Petition for Approval of Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement and Statement in Support are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Don Davis**

Subscribed and sworn

to before me this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Notary Public**